



From the Desk of Howard
County Council
Chairperson Calvin Ball

July 2014

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

Construction Edition

Welcome!

In an effort to keep you informed, it's my pleasure to share a list of projects currently construction in District Two and their respective timelines. These projects may cause delays, so I encourage you to stay tuned, plan ahead and use caution when driving.

Please feel free to share this information with your neighbors. If you have any additional projects within District Two you would like to see included within this newsletter, please email me at cbball@howardcountymd.gov or my Special Assistant Kim Pruim at kpruim@howardcountymd.gov.

Thunder Hill Rd at Rt175

At my request, SHA and the County have been working in collaboration to improve walkability in Oakland Mills, specifically the pedestrian improvements at the intersection of Thunder Hill Road at Route 175. SHA will construct a crosswalk and the missing sidewalk in front of Walgreens. We anticipate the design to occur during the summer with construction to begin Fall 2014.

Blandair Park Interchange

This project is to construct an interchange directly from Rt175 into Blandair Park, minimizing the local traffic coming into Oakland Mills. The County has obtained approval from SHA for the construction plans. SHA will issue a permit when the County submits all required document including the inspection fee.

The County tentatively hopes to advertise the project for construction bids within two months; however this project is being coordinated with phasing of Blandair Park. Once work begins, we anticipate it to take approximately two years to complete.

Snowden River Park & Ride

This project will include the addition of 96 parking spaces. Utility relocation work has begun; however a Notice to Proceed has not yet been issued. The timeline for the project calls for approximately 70 working days.



Rt 29 Widening Project

Phase 1A Extension of Old Columbia Road

This project is currently under construction and includes utility relocation and new roadway clearing. The extension of Old Columbia Road to Twin Knolls Road will permit SHA to close the at grade intersection at US 29 northbound. This project is expected to be completed by February 2015, weather permitting.

Phase 1B NB US29 Third Lane Widening & Noise Wall Construction

The contract bid was released on February 27, 2014 and SHA held a groundbreaking on May 29th. Construction is expected to begin shortly and the project is anticipated to be complete in September 2016, weather permitting. SHA is still in negotiations with the two remaining property owners on Gales Lane.

Noise walls will be constructed along the east side of NB US29 from Seneca Drive to MD175. The facilitate the construction of the noise walls to the south of the exit ramp from NB US29 to EB MD 175, the ramp must be relocated approximately 300feet to the north. During this time, traffic will be detoured to the west MD175 exit ramp and directed around the loop ramps of the MD175 interchange to return to east MD175.



Deep Run ES Addition / Renovation

The construction work has been bid and the school system is currently reviewing bids at this time. Anticipated project start is September 1.



Thomas Viaduct MS Construction

This project will include the construction of a new MS to serve the NE portion of the County. The school is nearing completion. Interior finish work such as carpeting, ceramic tile, CVT, paint, cabinets, doors, frames and hardware are ongoing. The gym floor has been installed along with all the sports related equipment. Kitchen equipment has been delivered and installed. Permanent power, water and gas has been installed and the interior spaces are conditioned. The commission of HVAC equipment is ongoing. Exterior sitework and paving are nearly complete. School administrators are scheduled to move in August 1 and teachers are likely to arrive August 11. Formal ribbon cutting and open house scheduled for August 24.

SFES Stormwater Mgmt Project

The project will construct trench drains, two microbio retention facilities and one bioswale. Notice to Proceed was given July 18 with the goal to complete the project by August 18 when teachers report back for the school year. We anticipate this project to cost \$202, 327.26 of which \$200,000 will be paid for by the Chesapeake Bay Trust Fund grant with the remainder paid for by the Watershed Protection & Restoration Fund.

Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by late August. The project is not expected to impact vehicular traffic in the area.

For questions about Capital Project D-1160, contact Lisa Brightwell, at 410-313-3440 or e-mail publicworks@howardcountymd.gov.

Rt 175 at Dorsey Run Rd

The County has restriped the lane configuration on Dorsey Run Rd (SW side) and SHA has arranged the overhead signs. The County is scheduled to finish the corrections to the ADA ramps at the intersection that were left unfinished; however, we are awaiting the final design approval from SHA. The County has a requirements contract in place so work can begin once we receive SHA approval. We anticipate this project to take several weeks.

Rt 103: YMCA/Veterans ES

This project will be located on Rte 103/ Montgomery Road next to the YMCA and Veterans ES across from the Long Gate Shopping Center. As currently submitted, it calls for 79 townhomes with the maximum density at 111 townhomes. Furthermore, SHA is working with the property owner to install the missing sidewalk portion and possible installation of a light.

The property owner anticipates hosting a public meeting to advise of their project in Fall 2014, which is subject to change. Please contact Kim Flowers at KFlowers@howardcountymd.gov with any questions.



Listed below you will find updates on construction projects occurring along the Route 1 corridor.



Route 1 Fire Station

A Fire Station will be constructed in the Route 1 corridor north of Route 175 near Montevideo Rd. The County has completed design work and is currently working to finalize land development and acquisition.

Rt 1: Rt 175 to Montevideo

This is a State Highway project to widen Route 1 near the intersection of Route 175 and make other improvements as needed. Currently, SHA is finalizing an MOU that will among many things, coordinate right-of-way land acquisitions necessary for the project and collaborate with BGE to relocate the utility poles. Plans are being developed to address the r/w line needed to relocate the utility poles.

Route 1 at Montevideo Rd

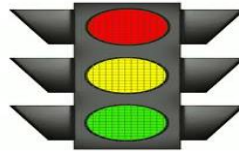
This project will include the relocation of Montevideo Road to align with Port Capital Drive. SHA anticipates this project will likely proceed before the US1 widening. The plans are approx. 65% complete and will soon be submitted for SHA review. The County is currently working with the Utility companies to ensure we can relocate a pole near the proposed new intersection.

Route 1 at Assateague Drive

This SHA and County collaboration was initiated as a request from my office to help improve walkability and pedestrian safety. Specifically, the County will construct a sidewalk along Assateague Dr from the Rt 1 right-of-way (ROW) line to the end of the existing sidewalk (900+ft). The County has issued a purchase order for the design and will provide SHA with a schedule of our work. SHA has agreed to construct a crosswalk on the north side of the intersection. SHA has approved the design of the pedestrian improvements; however a schedule has not yet been set.

Rt 1 Sidewalk, Crestmount to Cedar

At my request, SHA will coordinate efforts to improve pedestrian improvements in this area. Specifically, SHA will construct a missing portion of sidewalk along Route 1 from Crestmount south to Cedar. The County will arrange for a public meeting; however, no date has been selected.



Route 1 at Ducketts Lane

SHA has completed a review of this intersection and determined a full color traffic signal control would be beneficial at this location. A Notice to Proceed is scheduled for October 15, 2014, as this is the date an approved SHA signal contractor awarded the project is permitted to begin work. They will have 90 days to complete the project. For details, call George Miller at 301-624-8140 or email Gmiller2@state.md.us

Thank You For Following Along!

I hope you have found this information useful. If there are any projects you would like to see included within this newsletter, please email me at cball@howardcountymd.gov.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Calvin Ball".

Dr. Calvin Ball
Howard County Chairperson
"Unity is strength... when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved. ~
Mattie Stepanek